

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 167108

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----- 088587
R 022120Z AUG 74
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS

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FOR USDEL MAX WITCHER

FOLLOWING REPEAT ACTION TO PARIS BRUSSELS LONDON STOCKHOLM
OTTAWA BONN COPENHAGEN EC BRUSSELS ROME DAKAR BAMAKO NOUAKCHOTT
ABIDJAN NDJAMENA YAOUNDE CONAKRY OUAGADOUGOU LAGOS NIAMEY
OF 31 JUL 74:

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AFDROUGHT

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJECT: GRAIN DONATIONS TO THE SAHEL

ROME FOR FODAG, PARIS FOR HELMAN, EC BRUSSELS FOR MARTIN,
LONDON FOR BAAS

1. THE USG HAS ANNOUNCED THE CONTRIBUTION OF AN ADDITION-
AL 100,000 MT OF GRAIN AND PROTECTIVE FOODS FOR MAURI-
TANIA, SENEGAL, NIGER, MALI, UPPER VOLTA, CHAD, GUINEA,
AND THE GAMBIA.

2. 40,000 MT OF THIS CONTRIBUTION WILL ASSIST IN MEETING
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PAGE 02 STATE 167108

ANTICIPATED PRE-HARVEST PERIOD SHORTFALLS AND HELP ASSURE

SUFFICIENT FOOD STOCKS IN EACH COUNTRY UNTIL EARLY CROPS ARE AVAILABLE. IT IS TO BE COUNTED AGAINST THE USG 1973/74 CROP YEAR DONATION, RAISING IT TO 290,000 MT (INCLUDING WFP).

3. THE 60,000 MT BALANCE IS A CONTRIBUTION TOWARD OUR PLEDGE IN SUPPORT OF FOOD NEED REQUIREMENTS FOR THE 74/75 CROP YEAR. WE EXPECT TO MAINTAIN OUR COMMITMENT LEVEL DURING THE PERIOD AT ABOUT 40 PER CENT OF ALL FOOD DONATIONS.

4. THE PURPOSE OF THIS MESSAGE IS TO EMPHASIZE THE CONTINUANCE OF USG SUPPORT FOR THE CRITICAL AND URGENT

FOOD REQUIREMENTS OF THE SAHEL TO THE COUNTRIES INVOLVED AND MOST PARTICULARLY TO THE PRINCIPAL DONOR NATIONS ENGAGED WITH US IN THIS EFFORT. IT IS FRANKLY HOPED THAT BY ANNOUNCING THIS NEW COMMITMENT AT THIS TIME, IN ADVANCE OF THE NEXT MULTI-DONOR MISSION ASSESSMENT, IT WILL RESULT IN EARLIER COMMITMENTS AND EARLIER SHIPMENTS BY OTHER DONORS. WE ANTICIPATE THAT THE SAHEL REQUIREMENT FOR CY 74/75 WILL NOT BE LESS THAN LAST YEAR, AND IT IS OUR VIEW, THEREFORE, THAT OTHER DONORS NEED NOT DELAY IN ASSURING EARLIER, MORE EFFECTIVELY SCHEDULED SHIPMENTS. IT IS OUR EXPECTATION AND HOPE IN MAKING THIS PLEDGE, THAT OTHER DONORS WILL A) INCREASE THEIR 73/74 DONATIONS TO ASSIST IN MEETING THE PRE-HARVEST REQUIREMENT AND B) ANNOUNCE AT LEAST A PART OF THEIR 74/75 DONATION TO FACILITATE SCHEDULING.

5. A FINAL DETERMINATION OF USG DONATION QUANTITIES BY COUNTRY HAS NOT YET BEEN MADE. IT IS PLANNED, HOWEVER, THAT A MAJOR PORTION OF THIS INITIAL CONTRIBUTION WILL BE ASSIGNED TO MALI, MAURITANIA AND NIGER, WITH SMALLER SHARES TO SENEGAL, UPPER VOLTA, CHAD, THE GAMBIA AND GUINEA. PART OF THE U.S. CONTRIBUTION WILL BE FORMED BY AN INCREASED QUANTITY OF PROTECTIVE FOODS: INSTANT CORN SOY MILK BEING PROVIDED THROUGH UNICEF; SOY FORTIFIED SORGHUM GRITS AND CORN-SOY BLEND.

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PAGE 03 STATE 167108

6. ACTION ADDRESSEES ARE REQUESTED TO INFORM THE APPROPRIATE FOOD ASSISTANCE HEADQUARTERS OF THE USG ACTION AND QUERY THEIR RESPECTIVE GOVERNMENTS ON PRESENT PLANS FOR THE SAHEL FOR THIS AND THE CY 74/75 CROP YEAR. WE WOULD APPRECIATE ALL EFFORTS YOU MIGHT DIRECT TO THOSE GOVERNMENTS TO ENCOURAGE THEIR EARLY COMMITMENT PER PARA 4, ABOVE. ADVISE.

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